

Claims

- [c1] A fluid coupling to couple a fluid source line to a fluid supply line, the fluid coupling comprising:
- a body defining a fluid flow path having an inlet and an outlet;
 - a valve located within the body to control the flow of fluid through the flow path and operable between an open position, where fluid can flow through the body along the flow path, and a closed position, where fluid is prevented from flowing through the body along the flow path; and
 - a gladhand moveably mounted to the body operable between a stored position and a use position, the gladhand comprising a face having an outlet, an inlet fluidly connected to the outlet of the body, and a flow path extending between the gladhand inlet and the gladhand outlet; wherein fluid is permitted to flow through the body and out the gladhand when the valve is in the open position and the gladhand is in the use position by the fluid entering the body flow path through the body inlet, exiting the body flow path through the body outlet, entering the gladhand flow path through the gladhand inlet, and exiting the gladhand flow path through the gladhand outlet.

- [c2] The fluid coupling according to claim 1, wherein the body further comprises a swivel connection to moveably mount the gladhand to the body.
- [c3] The fluid coupling according to claim 2, wherein the swivel connection is disposed between the valve and the gladhand.
- [c4] The fluid coupling according to claim 2, wherein the valve is disposed between the swivel connection and the gladhand.
- [c5] The fluid coupling according to claim 1, wherein the body comprises an upper body portion and a lower body portion, wherein the lower body portion includes a nipple that is received within the upper body portion.
- [c6] The fluid coupling according to claim 5, and further comprising at least one seal disposed between the nipple and the upper body portion.
- [c7] The fluid coupling according to claim 6, wherein the body further comprises a swivel connection between the upper and lower body portions to moveably mount the gladhand to the body.
- [c8] The fluid coupling according to claim 7, wherein the upper body portion comprises an arm to which the glad-

hand inlet is connected.

- [c9] The fluid coupling according to claim 8, wherein the swivel connection comprises a biasing device to bias the arm such that the gladhand is in the stored position while permitting the rotating of the gladhand into the use position.
- [c10] The fluid coupling according to claim 9, wherein the biasing device is a torsion spring having a first finger coupled to the upper body portion and a second finger coupled to the lower body portion.
- [c11] The fluid coupling according to claim 5, wherein a bearing is positioned between the upper body portion and the lower body portion.
- [c12] The fluid coupling according to claim 5 and further comprising a mounting bracket, wherein the mounting bracket fixedly mounts the lower body portion, rotatably mounts the upper body portion, and prevents linear movement between the lower and upper body portions.
- [c13] The fluid coupling according to claim 12, wherein the mounting bracket comprises a support arm with a cover at its distal end, wherein the face of the gladhand rests against the cover when the gladhand is in the stored position such that the cover closes the gladhand outlet and

prevents fluid from exiting and dust and debris from entering the gladhand fluid flow path.

- [c14] The fluid coupling according to claim 1, wherein the valve comprises a rotatable valve member having a passageway located therethrough, wherein when the valve is in the open position, the passageway is substantially coaxial with the body flow path, and when the valve is in the closed position, the passageway is substantially transverse to the body flow path.
- [c15] The fluid coupling according to claim 14, wherein the valve further comprises a handle to manually rotate the rotatable valve member from the open position to the closed position.
- [c16] The fluid coupling according to claim 14, wherein the valve further comprises a bushing with a top surface adjacent the rotatable valve member, wherein the top surface forms a seal between the bushing and the rotatable valve member.
- [c17] The fluid coupling according to claim 16, wherein the valve further comprises at least one biasing member to urge the bushing against the rotatable valve member.
- [c18] The fluid coupling according to claim 17, wherein the rotatable valve member comprises a ball-shaped por-

tion, and the bushing is urged against the ball-shaped portion of the rotatable valve member.

[c19] The fluid coupling according to claim 16, wherein the valve further comprises a seal between the bushing and the body.

[c20] A gladhand comprising:
a face having an outlet;
a body having an inlet and defining a flow path extending between the inlet and the outlet to fluidly couple the body to the face;
a valve located within the flow path to control the flow of fluid through the flow path and operable between an open position, where fluid can flow through the gladhand along the flow path, and a closed position, where fluid is prevented from flowing through the gladhand along the flow path; and
a swivel connection for movably mounting the face between a use position, where fluid can flow through the outlet, and a stored position, where fluid is prevented from exiting the outlet;
wherein fluid is permitted to flow through the gladhand when the valve is in the open position and the gladhand is in the use position by the fluid entering the flow path through the inlet, flowing through the flow path, and exiting the flow path through the outlet.

- [c21] The gladhand according to claim 20, wherein the swivel connection is disposed between the valve and the face.
- [c22] The gladhand according to claim 20, wherein the valve is disposed between the swivel connection and the face.
- [c23] The gladhand according to claim 20, wherein the body comprises an upper body portion and a lower body portion, wherein the lower body portion includes a nipple that is received within the upper body portion.
- [c24] The gladhand according to claim 23, wherein at least one seal member is disposed between the nipple and the upper body portion.
- [c25] The fluid coupling according to claim 24, wherein the swivel connection is disposed between the upper and lower body portions.
- [c26] The gladhand according to claim 25, wherein the upper body portion comprises an arm, and the face is disposed on the arm.
- [c27] The gladhand according to claim 26, wherein the swivel connection comprises a biasing device to bias the arm such that the gladhand is in the stored position while permitting the rotating of the gladhand into the use position.

- [c28] The fluid coupling according to claim 27, wherein the biasing device is a torsion spring having a first finger coupled to the upper body portion and a second finger coupled to the lower body portion.
- [c29] The gladhand according to claim 23 and further comprising a mounting bracket, wherein the mounting bracket fixedly mounts the lower body portion, rotatably mounts the upper body portion, and prevents linear movement between the lower and upper body portions.
- [c30] The gladhand according to claim 29, wherein the mounting bracket comprises a support arm with a cover at its distal end, wherein the face of the gladhand rests against the cover when the gladhand is in the stored position such that the cover closes the gladhand outlet and prevents fluid from exiting and dust and debris from entering the gladhand fluid flow path.
- [c31] The gladhand according to claim 20, wherein the valve comprises a rotatable valve member having a passageway located therethrough, wherein when the valve is in the open position, the passageway is substantially coaxial with the flow path, and when the valve is in the closed position, the passageway is substantially transverse to the flow path.

- [c32] The gladhand according to claim 31, wherein the valve further comprises a handle to manually rotate the rotatable valve member from the open position to the closed position.
- [c33] The gladhand according to claim 31, wherein the valve further comprises a bushing having a top surface adjacent the rotatable valve member, wherein the top surface forms a seal between the bushing and the rotatable valve member.
- [c34] The gladhand according to claim 33, wherein the valve further comprises at least one biasing member to urge the bushing against the rotatable valve member.
- [c35] The gladhand according to claim 34, wherein the rotatable valve member comprises a ball-shaped portion, and the bushing is urged against the ball-shaped portion of the rotatable valve member.
- [c36] The gladhand according to claim 33, wherein the valve further comprises a seal between the bushing and the body.